

# GOVERNMENT PASSIVE BUT WATCHFUL OF COAL STRIKE

**President Harding is Keeping in Personal Touch With the Developments—Federal Control of Both Railroads and Coal Mines Has Been Suggested as the Final Emergency—Every White House Announcement Indicates Support of the Railroad/Labor Board and the Action of Chairman Hooper.**

Washington, July 23.—The government's future course in the situation created by the strike of railroad shop craftsmen was still left in the realm of conjecture today, though President Harding, who was in personal touch all day Saturday with the problem, cancelled his week end engagements to stay at the White House Sunday, where he would be in close communication with whatever other government agencies were active.

Whether Chairman Hooper of the railroad labor board, who returned to Chicago last night after an extended conference with Mr. Harding, carried new and highly confidential instructions for a reopening of negotiations with the union leaders, or whether the administration intended to stand unyieldingly by the labor board award, against which the men struck, were matters concerning which no official in Washington would talk.

Attorney General Daugherty, Secretary Hoover and Chairman McChesney of the interstate commerce commission were said to have agreed on the power of the commission to exercise a certain supervisory authority over the carriers which would assist in the operation of Mr. Hooper's plan for rationing the reduced coal supply.

The commission, it was agreed, under the terms of the transportation act, could require railroads to embargo shipments of coal unless consigned to ports and territories deemed to have greater need for fuel. For a beginning, it was expected that the coal rationing system would be applied only to assure railroads their coal supply, maintenance of the transportation machine being considered the primary necessity.

Every possible contingency in connection with the coal situation was canvassed by President Harding in his conference with advisers in the cabinet and with members of the senate, it was understood, and suggestions placed before the government included even the federal control both of railroads and mines as a step to be considered in the final emergency. Other suggestions were said to have been that the strike be left to wear itself out, the government maintaining a policy of protecting interstate commerce meanwhile; that labor representatives be charged in court proceedings with conspiracy to interrupt interstate commerce; and finally that railroad managements be required to yield on the condition that the strike be ended.

To date every White House announcement has been of a nature supporting the railroad labor board and the actions of Chairman Hooper. Opinion that any modification of this attitude was intended lacked official support tonight.

**NO STRIKE SETTLEMENT WORK BY RAILROAD LABOR BOARD**

Chicago, July 23 (By the A. P.)—No further action toward ending the strike of railroad shopmen is contemplated by the United States railroad labor board at this time, Ben H. Hooper, chairman of the board, announced tonight on his return from a conference with President Harding at Washington.

Asked by the labor board looking toward a settlement of the strike had been made, he dictated the following formal statement:

"My trip to Washington was mainly for the purpose of furnishing the president with the fullest information possible in regard to the strike situation.

"As might be supposed, the president seeks to know this situation from every angle, from the viewpoint of the carriers, the employees, the labor board and the public.

"There is nothing else that can be said just now other than to answer the question asked me by saying that no further action by the labor board is contemplated at this time."

While Mr. Hooper was meeting the government officials in Washington, P. M. Jewell and other strike leaders were in conference with James J. Davis, secretary of labor, at Mooseheart, Ill.

At the end of the meeting and before departing for Washington, Mr. Davis expressed the belief that the strike could be settled at once if the roads would restore the seniority rights of the strikers, and the labor board would take up the other questions in dispute.

In discussing the hopes of a settlement members of the labor board reviewed the progress of the strike since its inception on July 1. They pointed out that the strike vote precipitated the country-wide walk-out was taken on three questions. These grievances were given in the strike bulletin issued on July 7 by Mr. Jewell, which said:

"1.—To discontinue contracting out of work.

"2.—To establish a national board of adjustment.

"3.—To continue seniority rights of employees who suspended work."

It was pointed out that the list of demands contained only one of the original three grievances which resulted in the strike call—that relating to the discontinuance of contracting out. It was indicated that almost every carrier in the country already had agreed to stop this practice. The omission of the original demand relating to wages and working conditions was explained by the fact that the labor board had decided to agree to a re-opening of these points by the labor board.

W. L. McMenimen, labor member of the board, who was largely instrumental in averting threatened strikes of main-line and other strike men and clerical organizations, announced tonight that he will confer here tomorrow with W. P. Nease, representing the station clerical organization.

It was reported also that the general chairman of the union composed of railway and steamship clerks, freight handlers and express station employees will meet here Tuesday.

**FAVORS TRIBUNAL TO INQUIRE INTO THE COAL SITUATION**

Indianapolis, Ind., July 23 (By the A. P.)—President Harding was urged to appoint immediately a non-partisan fact-finding tribunal to inquire into the coal situation in a telegram sent him tonight

## CABLED PARAGRAPHS

**Americans Invited to Visit Belgrade**

Belgrade, July 23.—The government has officially invited the Americans to visit Belgrade and the American representatives who are attending the international parliamentary conference to visit Belgrade.

**Paderewski in Havana**

Havana, July 23.—Ignace Jean Paderewski arrived here today on board the steamer Savole from New York. He asserted that he had no political aspirations and that he was going to Switzerland for three months and afterwards perhaps might visit Poland.

**FREE STATES OUTNUMBERED WHEN THEY TOOK LINERICK**

Limerick, July 23 (By the A. P.)—From the beginning to the end of the operations which ended with the capture of Limerick on Friday by the Free State forces, the irregulars outnumbered the regulars. Not more than 700 Free State troops were engaged while the republicans reached at least one thousand.

The whole center of the city was involved in the battle, the line of the national troops extending in inch of Thomas and William streets, and at some points the combatants were separated by the street, the line of the republicans running through the city.

The fighting during the week consisted mostly of rifle and machine gun duels; each side tunneled from house to house, and the republicans were transformed into miniature fortresses.

The irregulars from the outset occupied the strongest positions and their final defeat was due to the division of the forces by the isolation of the Strand and Castle barracks by means of an artillery assault and a threatened encirclement. The irregulars were forced to have their retreat to the south cut off.

Before their evacuation, the republicans set fire to all the barracks by exploding mines. The new barracks, a great block of buildings erected around a square of about 200 yards were leveled. Castle barracks was destroyed with the exception of the thirteenth century tower of King John's castle. One of the two blocks comprising the old barracks and the Frederick police barracks were also destroyed.

The civilian population suffered acutely during the fighting; many were made homeless and at times there was a shortage of food. The Free State General Brennan, who supplied food to 20,000 people.

Being definite is known about the effects of the irregular forces, except that Liam Lynch, the so-called chief of the staff, who directed the operations in the early stages, then returned to Clonsilla. The dead and wounded were buried in a mass grave in the city.

Normal conditions are returning; postal service has been resumed and business is being carried on. The strike of the civil servants is being dealt with by the government.

**FATALITY IN COLLISION OF AUTOMOBILES NEAR MILFORD**

New Haven, July 23.—One man was instantly killed, another is expected to die, and three others are in serious condition as a result of a collision on the highway near Milford, Conn., today.

The fatal collision occurred when a car driven by a man from Milford struck a car driven by a man from New Haven. The car from New Haven was carrying a family of four.

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## Strikes are Serious Deterrent Business

**Railroad Strike Has Caused a Further Important Loss in Coal Production — Car Shortage.**

New York, July 23 (By the A. P.)—Signs were not wanting in the country's markets during the past week that the coal and railroad strikes have begun to impose an appreciable check on the rates of industrial activity. Oddly enough it is the shompen's strike, which has been considered relatively unimportant, which is the more serious factor, for it has caused a further important loss in coal production.

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## To Arrange for the Distribution of Coal

**Secretary Hoover is to Meet Today Operators From the Coal Producing Districts of Six States.**

Washington, July 23 (By the A. P.)—Operators from the coal producing districts of six states will be asked tomorrow by Secretary Hoover to co-operate with the government and the railroads in a plan to insure the distribution of fuel to the carriers and public utilities and to prevent profiteering during the strike.

All signs of Mr. Hoover's scheme, which contemplates the formation of a central committee to operate through the coal producing districts of six states, were thrashed out today at a series of conferences of the federal agency representatives from West Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Pennsylvania and Alabama.

The meeting at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning Mr. Hoover will have from Attorney General Daugherty a report on the situation of the coal producing districts of six states, and the government in the emergency through the co-operation of the interstate commerce commission and its authority under the law necessary.

In general, Mr. Hoover's program was understood to contemplate the creation of an emergency machine with the commission as the central body, and the departments of commerce, justice, interior and the interstate commerce commission, with the commerce secretary as the executive, operating through the local committees established in the producing districts at the time of the voluntary agreements fixing maximum fair prices.

Pooling of coal in the producing districts, and distribution of coal under a preferential system to be instituted under authority of the interstate commerce commission, is planned to prevent the hoarding of fuel at the most available points for quick shipments to the destinations where most needed. Co-operation between the railroads and the interstate commerce commission would make possible adequate supply of coal and establishment of a freight embargo necessary, to facilitate fuel movement.

Representatives of the operators and the railroads are to be drafted into service tomorrow to discuss the plan. The committee to provide direct contact with these industries.

Price maintenance is to be sought through efforts to be made by the interstate commerce commission. The plan is to have the part of small operators of the voluntary price agreements already in force and by co-operation on the part of the railroads to prevent hoarding and bidding sending coal prices skyward.

While Mr. Hoover's scheme was declared to be based on the co-operation of the coal producers, the plan is to have the part of small operators of the voluntary price agreements already in force and by co-operation on the part of the railroads to prevent hoarding and bidding sending coal prices skyward.

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## BRIEF TELEGRAMS

The Australian federal government has refused to agree to the appointment of German consuls in Australia.

Governor Channing H. Cox of Massachusetts, accompanied by Mrs. Cox, is at Profile, N. H., for a week's vacation.

The annual convention of the American Red Cross will be held in Washington, Oct. 9, 10 and 11, with President Harding delivering the opening address.

John Haas was restrained by court order in Chicago, from visiting seeing, talking to or riding with any woman except his wife.

The White Star liner Olympic, on its voyage from New York to Genoa, maintained for several hours a speed of 27.81 knots, which is a world's record for a passenger liner.

Wisconsin federation of labor went on record as unanimously in favor of modification of the Volstead act to permit manufacture and sale of light wines and beer.

Chief of Police George H. Hill of Worcester, issued orders, because of the railroad strike, all days of the members of the Worcester police department are cancelled until further notice.

Three armed men entered the office of H. M. Hillson company, Somerville, Mass., tinware manufacturers, in East Somerville, held up one of the proprietors and escaped with the payroll of \$1775.

Miss Marilyn Miller, dancer and musical comedy star is on her way to Los Angeles for her wedding on August 1 to Jack Pickford, motion picture actor, brother of Mary Pickford.

Reuben S. Thorndike, who was serving his fourth consecutive term as mayor of Rockland, Maine, died at the age of 53.

The Nyanza mills, manufacturing cotton goods, Woonsocket, R. I., will be closed all this week, reopening Monday, July 31. Shuttacking up of orders is given by the management as responsible.

Mrs. Gertrude Baldwin Chittenden, wife of Professor Russell Chittenden, who recently resigned as director of the Sheffield Scientific school, died at her home in New Haven.

Street car operations were resumed in Buffalo Saturday on four additional lines which have been tied up for three weeks by the strike of carmen employed by the International Railway company.

Formation of an American league of nations will be proposed by Uruguay at the next Pan-American conference to be held in Santiago, Chile, in May, 1923.

The national convention of the Young People's Christian Union of the United States, which opened in Worcester, Mass., yesterday, is being presided over by Ernest C. Jones, of Somerville, Mass., president, succeeding Charles E. Taylor of Chicago.

A national defense fund not lower than \$75,000 and a maximum of \$150,000 was endorsed by delegates attending the convention of the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders and Stationers union in Cincinnati.

Out of the frozen north a member of the Royal Canadian mounted police has arrived at New York City, bringing with him the body of a man who was killed in the murder of seven men by an Eskimo who ran amuck on Hedges Island, Hudson Bay, four months ago.

As a result of the long suspension at the anthracite coal mines in Pennsylvania, college students home on their vacations were unable this year to secure any employment in or about the collieries. Some have gone on farms.

Demand for ships in England to convey coal to America is increasing daily. Many steamers have been loaded in the United Kingdom this week for sailing to various American ports, the freight rate being from eight to ten shillings a ton.

J. C. Brimblecom of Newton, Mass., acting president of the National Editorial association, was promoted to the presidency with a unanimous vote at the closing session of its annual convention in Missoula, Mont.

A third supplementary motion for a new trial for Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, convicted of the murder of a paymaster and his guard at South Braintree in 1920, was filed in the Norfolk, Mass., superior court.

Representative C. Bascom Simpson, of North Carolina, district republican congressman from that state, asked a definite statement finally declining the renomination given him by the Assembly.

More than 1,000 national guardsmen, are in southwestern and central Pennsylvania coal fields, read to be assigned to strategic points when coal operators attempt resumption of mining activities in compliance with President Harding's order.

Mrs. Alice E. Cram has resigned from the presidency of the Democratic Women's club of Massachusetts and will be a candidate for the democratic nomination for state auditor.

Dr. William Hiram Foulkes, general secretary of the Presbyterian new era movement, is to sail on the steamship Empress of Australia July 27, from Vancouver, B. C., for the Far East for a visit to Presbyterian mission fields of the Philippines, Japan, Korea and China.

The Austrian government has modified the order, issued on Wednesday, prohibiting trading in foreign money. Under the new ruling trading will be permitted between eight and ten o'clock in the morning.

Mrs. Robert C. Eddy, of Milwaukee, wife of a former employee of the Good-year Rubber company's branch in Milwaukee, has filed suit for \$100,000 to cover alleged royalties on articles invented by her late husband, which she claims were made by the rubber company.

Electrocution killed a young married couple in Frankfurt, Germany, in a most unusual accident. Both bodies were found in a bathroom and investigation revealed that the zinc bathtub, a waterpump and a portable metal lampstand figured in completing the electrical circuit that caused their deaths.

Several locomotives of the New Haven railroad were tied up in the Worcester round house as the result of an unusual accident. A big Boston and Maine locomotive, which was being cared for in the roundhouse, was lying in the bottom of the turntable pit, and the other engines in the roundhouse cannot be removed.

## TO DISCUSS QUESTION OF A MORATORIUM FOR GERMANY

**David Lloyd George and Poincare Have Arranged for a Meeting the First Part of August—The Meeting Will Assume the Proportions of a Session of the Supreme Council, as Belgium is Sure to be Represented and Italy May Have Delegates in Attendance.**

Paris, July 23 (By the A. P.)—A conference between David Lloyd George, the British prime minister, and Raymond Poincare, the French premier, at the question of a moratorium on the reparations question, is regarded here as significant that the fate of the German moratorium is more likely to be decided at London than Paris.